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COUNTRY Rumania

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SUBJECT Comment of Official of Ministry of
National Defense on Soviet and
Rumanian Military Measures in Rumania

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SOURCE

1. An officer (field grade) assigned to the Ministry of National Defense, who recently returned from maneuvers in the Făgăraș area, has stated that recent military activity in Rumania cannot have been undertaken for political purposes alone. In support of his conclusion the officer cited Soviet troop movements, the large quantities of materiel, tanks and munitions supplied these troops, the construction of munition dumps by Rumanian troops in isolated areas along lines of communication, establishment of tele-communications networks (radio and underground lines), and the creation of forbidden zones. According to the officer, both fixed and mobile repair stations (with stocks of spare parts) for motor vehicles have been set up, underground gasoline storage points have been built along the highways, switching points have been constructed on the railroads between stations so that trains will not be required to stop in stations, and material for repair of right-of-way has been distributed along the railroad lines.
2. The officer noted the political propaganda fed daily to the Rumanian troops. The soldiers are told that, thanks to innumerable sacrifices and above all to the aid given by the Soviet Union, they have snatched power from the hands of the capitalists and they must defend that which they have acquired. They are likewise told that danger is not only present in the country where the dispossessed classes, instigated and aided by foreign capitalists, carry on a bitter undercover struggle to regain power, but that the real danger exists on the frontier where it awaits only a moment of weakness on their part.
3. The officer expressed the opinion that if the Russians "do not attack, then they certainly expect to be attacked".

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